

SEPTEMBER 15, 2004 MEETING

374 HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

MINUTES

Commissioners Present

Steven Afriat, President
Renee Campbell, Vice President
James Barger, Secretary
Sylvia Robledo

County Representatives

Jonathan Geller, County Counsel
Victor Wright, County Counsel LASD
Joseph Dangerfield, Treasurer Tax
Arlene Cox, LASD Investigator
Sergeant Mark Stevens, LASD

Absent

Diana Wood

Commission Services Staff

B. Eugene Romig, Chief, Commission Services
Gabriel Alexander

Court Reporter

Carrienne Trigg

CALL TO ORDER

President Afriat called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Applicants, witnesses and a translator were sworn to testify truthfully, following the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Vice President Campbell joined the meeting).

MINUTES:

ACTION TAKEN: MINUTES of SEPTEMBER 8, 2004 – Approved

Motion: Commissioner Barger, seconded by Commissioner Robledo

Ayes: Vice President Campbell, Commissioners Barger and Robledo

Abstain: President Afriat

Vote: Duly carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

MATTERS NOT ON POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING): There were none

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS: Commissioner Barger spoke on the concessions at the East Los Angeles Superior Court. Commissioners requested Commission staff to report on the status of the Request for Proposals for a food vendor for that facility. In addition, they requested staff to arrange a report by the state department in charge of a program for concessions at court facilities.

Jonathan Geller, County Counsel, introduced Deputy County Counsel Patricia Torres, noting that she would be working with the Commission.

RECESS: The Commission recessed at 9:08 a.m.

RECONVENE: The Commission reconvened at 9:16 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Recommendation to Deny Massage Technician Business License,
I.D. # 130682
Tian Jing Jiang
512 N. Nicholson Ave., #12
Monterey Park First District

After President Afriat advised Mr. Jiang of his right to representation, the applicant indicated he would like to proceed with the hearing.

Arlene Cox, LASD license investigator, explained that LASD recommends denial of the applicant's license because of his conviction on July 12, 2001 on the charge of 647b, soliciting prostitution. She then described the sting operation which led to his arrest, noting he was sentenced to 2 years probation and 3 days jail. She noted that was the only conviction on his record. She also noted that the location he was applying for the license was not a licensed massage parlor.

The applicant then gave background on his employment history and described the sting operation, emphasizing that he was inquiring about renting a room at a hotel rather than soliciting a prostitute. He asserted that he was innocent of the charge but pled guilty to the charge because the judge was concerned he had talked to the jury outside the courtroom.

Sergeant Mark Stevens, LASD, provided information from the police report leading to his arrest and asserted that the applicant was convicted in court and sentenced to probation.

The Commission closed the public hearing at 9:51 a.m.

Commissioner Robledo spoke on the problem of prostitution in the First District.

ACTION TAKEN: The Commission upheld the recommendation to deny the above license.

Motion: Commissioner Robledo, seconded by President Afriat

Vote: Unanimously carried

ADJOURNMENT: The Commission adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Renee Campbell
Vice President